

Polk County Observer

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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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DALLAS, OREGON, JUNE 10, 1910

The way to build up Dallas is to pat-
ronize Dallas people.



OBJECT IS WORTHY.

It is reported that the Oregon Historical Society will ask the next Legislature to appropriate an amount sufficient to erect a permanent home for the large and valuable collection of relics, documents and papers now on display in the Portland City Hall, to be known as the History Building. For years this valuable collection has been given a place in the Portland city building free of rent, through the kindness of the city officials. The time has come, however, when all this room is needed, and an emergency faces the Society. It must have a fireproof building in which to properly classify and index this material, and of sufficient size to accommodate collections for years to come, in order to make it usable. The building should also be arranged in such a manner as to make it possible for every institution of learning in Oregon, and the public generally, to have access to these collections. Such access is not possible under present conditions.

Although the work of gathering a historical collection has been in progress less than twelve years, an idea of its magnitude and value may be gained from the following summary: It contains 9500 documents, 224 diaries and account books, 165 maps and charts, 172 bound volumes of newspapers, 115,000 unbound newspapers, 11,700 books, 10,000 pamphlets, 30,000 letters, 1750 pioneer relics, 4500 pioneer, Indian and scenic photographs, 30 historical scrapbooks, and probably 40,000 historical scraps not yet booked. In addition, there is a vast amount of material not included under any of the above heads. None of this collection belongs to the Historical Society. By the terms of its charter, everything secured by the society is held by it in trust for the people of the State of Oregon.

The importance of providing a suitable building for the safe-keeping of this valuable collection will at once appeal to every citizen who has pride in Oregon's past and interest in its future welfare. Aside from any sentimental view of the subject, the movement to secure a State historical building is commendable from a practical, business standpoint. Such a building, owned and maintained by the state, would be one of the best advertisements Oregon could have.

The building should be located in Portland, in order to give the greatest possible number of strangers visiting the state an opportunity to see the collection. The structure should be large enough to accommodate not only the historical records and relics, but to afford space for a permanent exhibit of Oregon products. Such a combination of "past and present" would tell the story of the state's development in all lines of commercial, industrial and social activity more eloquently than any words.

It is only right and proper that the state should bear the comparatively small cost of erecting such a building. It need not necessarily be expensive, but should be constructed of fireproof material and should be made to present an attractive appearance. In erecting such a building, Oregon would not be following in the lead of practically all of the more progressive states of the Union, and a building of the character suggested would be a credit to the state and would, in addition to providing a permanent home for a priceless historical collection, stand for all time as a memorial to the pioneers, and would bear witness to the fact that Oregonians of the present day are proud to associate the achievements of the noble men and women who rescued Oregon from the wilderness and placed in the diadem of states one of its brightest jewels.

THE DEMAGOGUE

A demagogue is a man who attempts to control the multitude by specious or deceitful arts, says the Allright Citizen. He is an unprincipled and factious political leader. Religious leaders tell us that comparatively few people are converted after the age of twenty and that scarcely any change their ways after fifty.

The changes of heart experienced by the demagogue are many and varied. They are likely to increase with age. The man who has spent the best years of his life attempting to purchase high political preferment, suddenly becomes a wild-eyed reformer. He informs the people that the state is full of corrupt politicians, and he ought to know for he has spent his life in making that kind of men. He proposes to deliver the people from the system of his own making.

Oregon has had some experience with the demagogue. He is abroad in the state now. He is making himself heard and will continue to do so especially during these next few months. He has played upon enough of the people of Oregon to get himself elected to high positions. It remains to be seen what he will be able to do this year.

When Guildenstern, at the queen's command, comes to Hamlet as a spy, Hamlet brings forth a pipe and asks his false friend to play upon it. Guildenstern says, "I know no touch of it, my lord." Hamlet replies: "Tis as easy as lying; govern these ventages with your finger and thumb, give breath with your mouth, and it will discourse most eloquent music. Look you, these are the stops." Guildenstern pleads: "But these cannot I command to any utterance of harmony; I have not the skill." Then Hamlet replies: "Why look you now,

how unworthy a thing you make of me! You would play upon me; you would seem to know my stops; you would pluck out the heart of my mystery; you would sound me from my lowest note to the top of my compass; and there is much music, excellent music in this little organ; yet cannot you make it speak. 'Sblood, do you think I am easier to be played on than a pipe? Call me what instrument you will, though you can fret me, yet you cannot play upon me." The people of Oregon have come to the place where they will refuse to be played upon as a pipe.

Of the eleven Congressmen chosen in Iowa, Tuesday, eight were elected by the progressive, or insurgent, wing of the Republican party. The result should cause no great surprise. The man who cannot see the finish of Canaanism is a victim of political myopia.

Down in Oregon City the State Grangers had a number of yells among them this one:

Boom, bang, bum!

What's the matter with Statement One?

What's the matter with Statement One? Why, it's "bum." That's what's the matter with it. The question is its own answer.

Direct Legislation fanatics are unable, or profess to be unable, to see anything but evil in the Oregon Legislature. They pretend great fear lest the Legislature may take away some of the "rights of the people." Before trying to frighten us further with this bugbear, will not some of these wise and experienced "reformers" please tell us who made it possible for the people of Oregon to adopt the direct legislation system? Was it not the Oregon Legislature?

Grant B. Dimick, a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor, sends out a circular to the voters, condemning the assembly. Among other things, he says: "Since the adoption of the primary law, all of the old factional strife in the Republican party has died away." He might have added "So has the Republican party." Politicians of the Dimick sort care nothing of what becomes of the party so long as they get the offices. Republicans, however, to whom the name means something do care, and that is why an assembly will be held.

GRADUATING PROGRAM

Public School Commencement Will Be Held Next Monday Night.

The Dallas public school will hold commencement exercises in the Woodman Hall next Monday night. The program is as follows:

Invocation, Rev. N. S. Reeves.

Song, Quartet.

Essay, "Growth of Our Navy," Zula Heistand.

Oration, "Conservation," Harold Miller.

Piano Solo, "German Triumphal March," Pauline Coad.

Essay, "Panama Canal," Jean Byers.

Oration, "Labor vs. Capital," Merle Hall.

Piano Solo, "Angel's Dream," Ada Longnecker.

Class Prophecy, Ernest Farnham.

Address to Class, R. F. Robinson.

Song, Quartet.

Court Items, Real Estate Transfers and Other News Briefly Told.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Claud L. Johnson and Clara Earhart; Richard G. Frerick and Myrtle Palmer.

REAL ESTATE.

Henry Grazer of ux to F. M. Smith, land in Dallas, \$3500.

E. L. Ketchum of ux to Charles K. Spaulding, lumber company, 160 acres in Polk County, \$1.

Jacob Paist of ux to L. L. Lantz, lots in McCoy, \$350.

Alice C. Clarke to R. M. and W. B. Ewing, 110.18 acres, 17 s, r 5 w, \$10.

E. B. Gobat of ux to George E. Myers, 102.2 acres, 19 s, r 4 w, \$5100.

New Type Face.

The Observer is out in a new dress of type this week, larger and more easily read by those with failing eyesight, comments the Itemizer. We might say that this letter was put on the linotype for convenience in correcting proofs while making two long runs of book printing, the book having been set in the same letter and being somewhat tedious to change the magazines on the machine every time a corrected slug might be needed. It had not been our intention to set the newspaper in this dress only for the two issues this week. However, we could be made to know that a larger face of type would be appreciated by our readers, we would willingly make the change. In the absence of any considerable demand for a larger letter, we shall return to the usual dress next week.

One-Sided Game.

The baseball game between Dallas and Chemawa, played on the home grounds Tuesday afternoon, was so one-sided as to be scarcely worthy of further mention than was given it in Tuesday's paper, when a three-line local announced a victory for the home boys by a score of 13 to 3. Chemawa has always had a good ball team before, but this year the Indian side has failed to keep up their record.

Notice.

Parties knowing themselves indebted to the firm of Guy Brothers & Dalton will please call and settle accounts at the Sterling Furniture Co. 6-2-11.

Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned as administrator of the estate of Jennie Shirk, deceased, has filed his final account in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County, and that Saturday, the 9th day of July, 1910, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the Court room of the said County Court in the City of Dallas, Oregon, has been appointed by said Court as the time and place for the hearing of objections to the said final account and the settlement thereof.

HENRY G. CAMPBELL, Administrator of the estate of Jennie Shirk deceased.

Oscar Hartley, Attorney.

Dated and first published June 10, 1910.

OREGON'S GREAT NEED

C. N. McARTHUR'S ADDRESS ON
STATE CONSTITUTION.

Importance of Constitutional Convention Is Clearly Pointed Out by Speaker.

The Constitution of Oregon was adopted fifty-three years ago and, as I have stated, its few unamended provisions are either disregarded or have become dead letters. The questions now before us are: Shall we continue, at a great expense, to attempt, in the present spasmodic, erratic, and unsystematic manner, to revise a faulty constitution? Shall we continue, at each succeeding election, to vote upon amendments proposed by any manner or group of men? Shall we continue to adopt proposed amendments without amendment or debate? Shall we continue to allow our Constitution-making to be done by self-appointed law-makers who are responsible to nobody? Would it not be better to submit the whole question to a body of sixty men, selected according to law, and then at the polls pass upon the results of their deliberation? Would it not be better to follow some well-defined plan, rather than continue to patch our Constitution piece-meal and at random, where those who prepare the amendments are generally unknown and responsible to no constituency?

It is first for the people to say whether or not we are to have a Constitutional Convention; if then up to the people to select the delegates; and finally, the people must pass upon the proposed Constitution at the polls. It would be a reflection upon the intelligence of the people to say that they are not competent to pass upon all of these propositions in an intelligent manner. In view of the experience of this and other states, it is reasonable to assume that the sixty delegates chosen under the direct primary law, would be representative of the best citizenship of the state. They would average better than the same number of legislators for the reason that no senatorial figure would becloud the issue before the voters and men would, in nearly every instance, be chosen upon merit. A glance at the membership roll of Oregon's first and only Constitutional Convention shows names as Matthew P. Deady, Stephen P. Cladwick, P. P. Prim, Delazon Smith, George H. Williams, L. F. Grover, Reuben P. Boise, Jesse Applegate, E. D. Shattuck, John R. McBride and many others who, by ability and uprightness of character, made names that will live long in the history of the state. The recent Constitutional Convention of Michigan was composed of ninety-six members, chosen by popular vote. From a party standpoint, the convention was overwhelmingly Republican, only eight out of the ninety-six members being Democrats. Party lines were, however, not in evidence and the convention entered upon its work in a spirit of earnestness and patriotic devotion to duty. It has been said that the convention consisted of the best and most thoroughly representative body of men ever gathered together in the State of Michigan. After a session of sixty days, the convention, by a unanimous vote, adopted a constitution which was ratified by the voters of Michigan by an overwhelming majority. In speaking of the new constitution, Professor John A. Fairlie, Junior Professor of Administrative Law at the University of Michigan, says:

"It can hardly be denied that the new constitution contains all that was valuable in the old constitution, that it eliminates a good deal that was no longer serviceable, and that it includes many new provisions that will make the fundamental law of the state much more adapted to the conditions and needs of the present."

The experience of most other states that have recently adopted new constitutions has been similar to that of Michigan, and as the people of Oregon are average American citizens, there is every reason to believe that their experience with a constitutional convention and its results would be a happy one, and that there is no reason to believe that the "enemies of the people" have called the convention in the hope of getting rid of the Initiative, Referendum, Direct Primary Law, etc. This charge has been freely made by opponents of the pending bill, but it is mere clap-trap and is advanced for the sole purpose of arousing prejudice against the measure. It cannot be denied that some of our present constitutional provisions should be safeguarded by certain restrictions, but any attempt on the part of the Constitutional Convention to abolish the laws and constitutional provisions upon which the people have already expressed themselves and which they wish to preserve as a part of our organic law, would meet with defeat at the polls when the proposed Constitution comes up for approval or rejection. A Constitutional Convention should preserve the Initiative and Referendum, but should increase the percentage of signatures required for their invoking, and on a state-wide measure should require signatures from several counties. The Initiative should not be invoked unless 15 per cent of the electors or a two-thirds vote of the Legislature, and a majority vote at one election or a majority vote at two successive elections should be required for the adoption of such amendment. The present "Change-the-Constitution-while-you-wait" method should be discarded but the right to change the organic law should not be denied to the people. The old system of amendment was too difficult; the present system too lax. What we need is a system that can be operated when important questions are at issue, but which will prove too difficult for cranks and agitators to use for the purpose of constantly annoying the electorate with their petty schemes. The people of Oregon want the Initiative and Referendum and the Direct Primary Law, and will resist attempts to nullify any of them.

Action of Legislature Defended.

I feel that I am a competent witness in the matter of the intent of the Legislature in submitting the pending measure. It was passed in the House by a vote of 40 yeas to 17 nays, with three members absent; and in the Senate by a vote of 21 yeas to 8 nays, with one absent. There was no intent on the part of the Legislature to

"rob the people of their rights" or to repeal the popular features of our present constitution. All members of the Legislature were elected under the Direct Primary Law, and a majority of them were friendly to direct legislation. The Legislature felt that no material changes should be made in the Direct Primary Law, and that the Initiative and Referendum, under certain limitations, should be reserved by the people. Members of the Legislature took the ground that the people are willing to accept improvements, but not impediments. The charge that members of the Legislature conspired with corporate interests in order to overthrow the Initiative and Referendum is false and without foundation—an insult to the intelligence and honor of the Legislature; and, incidentally, to the electorate of the state. Such charges spring from the counterfeit zeal of the demagogue, rather than from the sober apprehensions of genuine patriotism. It is a misfortune that public measures are seldom investigated with that spirit of moderation which is essential to a just estimate of their real worth.

In passing the Constitutional Convention bill, the Legislature voted wisely provided that a special election shall be held for the purpose of allowing the people to select delegates to the Convention, and another special election is provided for in order to allow the people to approve or reject the Constitution. These special elections were provided for to the end that the election of delegates should not be obscured by the regular county and state elections and that factional politics should, as far as possible, be eliminated; also that, in the election for ratification or rejection of the Constitution, a single issue should confront the people and that a free and fair discussion of the question might be had without the consideration of liquor laws, county divisions, single tax amendments, woman suffrage, normal school appropriations, etc., which occur at our regular biennial elections.

Learned gentlemen who are opposed to the pending bill tell us that \$250,000 will be the approximate cost of the Constitutional Convention and the expenses incident thereto. I do not believe that this estimate is correct. A liberal estimate of the expenses would range somewhere in the neighborhood of \$150,000, a sum which the state can well afford to spend in order to secure a strong, up-to-date Constitution. We are spending almost that much at every election upon the various Initiative bills proposed by the people and referendum measures submitted by the Legislature. We are told that the pending bill is unfair in this: that it is intended to secure the election of all the delegates from the Republican party, if possible. The experience of other states shows that Constitutional Conventions have not divided upon party lines, except in the South. It matters little whether or not the Constitution is framed by Republicans, Democrats, Populists, or Socialists; the voters of the state must pass upon it before final adoption.

Must Submit to People.

This brings me to another important phase of the subject under discussion—the right of the convention to promulgate a new constitution without submitting it to the people for approval or rejection. We are told that there is danger that the convention will refuse to obey the provisions of the bill by which it is called and that an objectionable constitution will be foisted onto the people without their consent. This is not only a reflection upon the intelligence of the people, who will choose delegates to the convention, but it suggests that our Supreme Court would recognize and uphold the right of the convention to promulgate a new constitution without submitting it to the people for approval or rejection. We are told that there is danger that the convention will refuse to obey the provisions of the bill by which it is called and that an objectionable constitution will be foisted onto the people without their consent. This is not only a reflection upon the intelligence of the people, who will choose delegates to the convention, but it suggests that our Supreme Court would recognize and uphold the right of the convention to promulgate a new constitution without submitting it to the people for approval or rejection.

Costly Litigation Unlikely.

Members of the People's Progressive Government League tell us that a new Constitution will be followed by many years of uncertainty as to the meaning of its provisions and that a system of local municipal government in the cities and incorporated towns of the state, place certain limitations upon the power of the Legislature, provide for an improved judiciary system with uniform fair salaries for judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, re-arrange and harmonize judicial and prosecuting attorney districts; adopt a more equitable and uniform system of assessment and taxation, make permanent arrangements for public education, and adopt a more satisfactory provision for the creation of new counties than we now have. There are other questions of a purely constitutional nature that a convention might consider, but all legislative matters should be left to the Legislature or the people.

In addition to the subjects already suggested, the proposed Constitutional Convention could provide for a better system of local municipal government in the cities and incorporated towns of the state, place certain limitations upon the power of the Legislature, provide for an improved judiciary system with uniform fair salaries for judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, re-arrange and harmonize judicial and prosecuting attorney districts; adopt a more equitable and uniform system of assessment and taxation, make permanent arrangements for public education, and adopt a more satisfactory provision for the creation of new counties than we now have. There are other questions of a purely constitutional nature that a convention might consider, but all legislative matters should be left to the Legislature or the people.

I have examined a large number of decisions upon this question, which lead to the following conclusions:

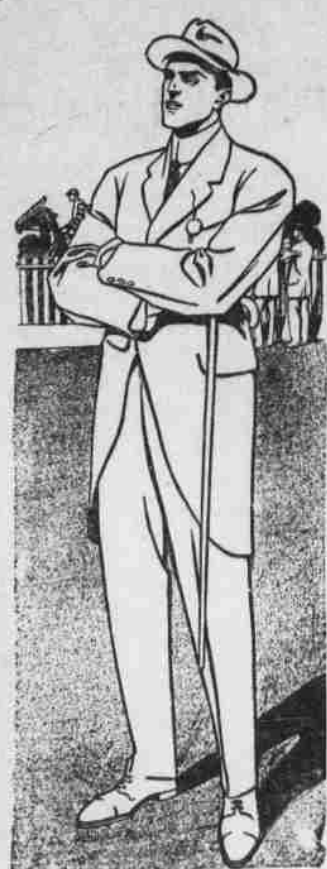
1. A Constitutional Convention untrammelled by conditions imposed by the authority calling the Convention, has power to enact a new Constitution, to go into effect without being submitted to the people.

2. Where the act from which the Convention derives its power provides for the submission of the Convention's work to the people in a specific manner, the Convention has no power to provide for its submission in a different manner, and, of course, where such an act requires submission to the people, it must be so submitted and becomes operative only upon their approval or rejection.

Section 1 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of Oregon says: "No convention shall be called to amend or propose amendments to this Constitution, unless the law providing for such convention shall first be approved by the people on a referendum vote at a regular general election."

According to this section of our Constitution, a convention may be called to amend or propose amendments, or propose a new constitution, but such convention is not given the

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Dallas Mercantile Co.

BUSINESS LOCALS.

Advertisements under this head are charged at the rate of 1 cent per word, first insertion; 1/2 cent per word for each insertion thereafter; 30 words or less, \$1 per month. No advertisement inserted for less than 15 cents.

For Sale Cheap. Truck automobile, good as new. New tires and good engine. Carl Gerlinger. 6-3-11.

Cottage for Sale. One-story, six-room cottage for rent. Apply at Fuller Pharmacy. 531-11.

Goats for Sale. Twenty head of wether goats for sale. John E. Miller, Mutual Phone Green 54. 5-13-11.

Land Plaster. Just received, a car of land plaster. Seehren Warehouse Co. 3411.

Men Wanted. By the Willamette Valley Lumber Co., for mill and yard work. Telephone No. 401. Both phones. 419-11.

Carriage for Sale. Good carriage, used less than a dozen times, for sale at a bargain. Apply at Fuller Pharmacy. 531-11.

For Sale. An A-1 extra light buggy and harness for sale. M. Hayter, Dallas, Ore. 419-11.

For Sale or Trade. A first class self-feeding Hay press. Would sell or trade for team of horses. Address I. Schneider, Dallas, Ore. 32311.

For Sale. Horses, weight about 1100 pounds, and cut for sale. Byron Bradley, Route 2, Box 61D. 531-11.

Wanted. All kinds of iron, rubber, brass, copper, zinc and hides. Highest cash prices paid. A. N. Hallock, Monmouth, Oregon. 3-13-11.

Posts for Sale. One thousand posts for sale. Guy Brothers. 31.

Photographs at Cost. I am closing out all of my Photographs at cost. Only a few left. 35-cent cylinder indestructible records for 23 cents; 65-cent Double Disc records for 42 cents, as long as they last. One new Cylinder 235 machine for \$25. A. H. Harris, Jeweler. 524-11.

Stock to Pasture. Large pasture and abundance of feed and water. Haven't had any stock in it up to May 15. Horses called for at 50c extra and pastured for \$1 per month; cows \$1. Call on J. M. Briggs on Mt. Pisgah farm, known as Kimball's ranch or address Box 260, Dallas. Pasture known as the Mrs. Lee pasture. 5-20-11.

Wood for Sale. Do you need wood? In preparing to place your order, remember that I am able to furnish you all kinds of sawmill at the best possible rates. Send in your orders by either phone. Mutual 1196; Bell 442. August Bowman. 6-4-11.

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Our Quick Meal Gasoline Stoves and Automatic Oil Stoves

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OF One and One-Third Fare FROM ALL POINTS IN OREGON

Sale Dates: From Roseburg and all stations north thereof, including all branches. June 6, 8 and 10. From all stations south of Roseburg, June 6 and 8th. Final return limit, June 8th.

For further particulars as to rates, etc., apply to any S. P. Agent, or to

Wm. McMURRAY General Passenger Agent Portland, Oregon